

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph describing Figures 4A and 4B, on page 6, lines 1-3, with the following amended paragraph:

FIGS. 4A and 4B depict the alignment of AGS with representatives of all major classes of small G proteins in humans indicating that AGS is likely to be the founding member of a novel class of small G proteins in humans. G-protein sequences: AGS1 (SEQ ID NO: 46); C-HA-RAS1 (SEQ ID NO: 47); RALA (SEQ ID NO: 48); RAB-1A (SEQ ID NO: 49); RHOHP1 (SEQ ID NO: 50); CDC42 (SEQ ID NO: 51); RAC2 (SEQ ID NO: 52); ARL1 (SEQ ID NO: 53); RND3/RHOE (SEQ ID NO: 54).

Please replace the paragraph describing Figure 5, on page 6, lines 4-7, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 5 depicts the alignment of residues in the P region and in the G' region of various small G proteins. Asterisks indicate the location of three highly conserved residues that are altered in AGS, Rnd1, Rnd2, and Rnd3. Numbers indicate the positions of the amino acid sequence of AGS. G-protein P-region sequences: RhoE/Rnd3 (SEQ ID NO: 55); Rnd2 (SEQ ID NO: 56); Rnd1 (SEQ ID NO: 57); RhoA (SEQ ID NO: 58); RhoB (SEQ ID NO: 59); Cdc42 (SEQ ID NO: 60); Rac1 (SEQ ID NO: 61); H-ras (SEQ ID NO: 62); AGS (SEQ ID NO: 63). G-protein G'-region sequences: RhoE/Rnd3 (SEQ ID NO: 64); Rnd2 (SEQ ID NO: 65); Rnd1 (SEQ ID NO: 66); RhoA (SEQ ID NO: 67); RhoB (SEQ ID NO: 68); Cdc42 (SEQ ID NO: 69); Rac1 (SEQ ID NO: 70); H-ras (SEQ ID NO: 71); AGS (SEQ ID NO: 72).